



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Republicans | Ranking Member Phil Roe, M.D.

H.R. 1381: The Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act

Background:

The Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry was established under section 201 of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012. Currently, eligible Veterans and service members may self-report their exposures and document health concerns via a questionnaire as part of this registry. However, in the event of a death which could potentially be linked to a registered exposure, there is no process in place to update the registry on behalf of a registered individual.

This legislation would ensure that the burn pit registry may be updated with the cause of death of a deceased registered individual. This information would be provided by an individual designated by the deceased, or an immediate family member if no one else is designated. The Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) would have 180 days after the enactment of this bill to take the actions required to allow this capability.

The Message:

- The Burn Pitt Registry Enhancement Act would create a process to ensure that the burn pit registry may be updated with the cause of death of a deceased registered individual.
- The legislation would allow for more accurate exposure reporting, which would help VA properly document and enhance research efforts with regards to airborne hazards.